

**NEW HOPE-SOLEBURY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BOARD MEETING
June 2, 2008**

A meeting of the New Hope-Solebury School District Board of Directors was held in the High School Cafeteria on Monday, June 2, 2008. Mr. Behre called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. Mr. Behre led members and guests in the Pledge of Allegiance. Mr. Behre then asked the Secretary to call roll.

Members present: Mr. Behre, Mrs. Elefante, Mr. Fieber, Mrs. Heath, Mrs. Malamis, Mr. Nally, Mrs. O'Brien, and Mrs. Wahlgren.

Member absent: Mr. Dozbaba

Administrators present: Dr. Boccuti, Mr. Hogg, Ms. Mundy, and Dr. Young

The Board held an executive session before the meeting to discuss personnel and legal issues.

Board Minutes

Upon a motion made by Mr. Fieber, seconded by Mr. Nally, the Board voted to approve the minutes of the May 19, 2008 Regular Meeting of the Board of School Directors.

Budget and Tax Resolutions

Upon a motion made by Mr. Nally, seconded by Mrs. Elefante, the Board of School Directors voted to:

- Adopt the final budget for the 2008-2009 fiscal year consisting of \$32,282,792 in revenue, including \$880,000 from the fund balance, and \$32,282,792 in appropriations, and that part of the revenue be raised by a school tax on real estate levied at the rate of 76.70 mills on assessed valuation equating to \$7.670 per \$100, subject to the discount and/or penalty prescribed by the School Laws of Pennsylvania.
- Approve the following tax resolutions:
 -Levy Real Estate Tax of 76.70 Mills
 -Set Discount (2%) and Penalty (10%) Rates
 -Levy Real Estate Transfer Tax
 -Homestead and Farmstead Exclusion

Comment on Budget

Mrs. Flynn requested that Varsity girls' lacrosse be added to the budget.

Special Presentation

Chief Warrant Officer Two Michael St. John presented a flag to the middle school in recognition of the students' support of the troops.

Students Report

There was no report.

Old Business

Board Committee Reports

Mrs. Wahlgren reported on the Communications Committee.

Mrs. Elefante reported on the Facilities Committee.

Mr. Nally reported on the Finance Committee.

Mrs. O'Brien reported on the Policy Committee.

Superintendent Report

Dr. Boccuti presented a report on high school scheduling. This report is attached to the minute book.

Dr. Boccuti recognized the following individuals:

- Mr. Matt Schram – BAL Baseball Coach of the Year
- Ms. Diana Dececco – BAL Track and Field Coach of the Year
- Mr. David Bachart – Cavalcade of Bands/Jazz Band Director of the Year

New Business

Ms. Hanselman and Ms. Wierzbowski presented a report on the high school guidance program and college visitations.

The Board held a discussion of the updated drug and alcohol guidelines.

Public Discussion on Agenda Items

No discussion

Finance

Upon a motion made by Mr. Fieber, seconded by Mrs. Elefante, the Board of School Directors voted to approve and ratify the following:

- List of bills totaling \$181,598.14

2007-2008 Checks for Approval
 Check Numbers – 10022341-10022419
 Totaling - \$ 181,598.14

- The attached budgetary transfers for the 2007-2008 fiscal year and that they be made part of the permanent minute book.

Personnel

Upon a motion made by Mr. Fieber, seconded by Mr. Heath, the Board voted to approve and ratify the following:

Resignations and Leaves

- Resignation of Ellen Cuthrell, Instructional Assistant, effective June 18, 2008.
- Resignation of Michelle DelPrior, Café Worker, effective June 18, 2008.
- Child rearing leave for Lori Ierubino, effective beginning approximately August 27, 2008 through the end of the first semester of the 2008-2009 school year.

Appointments

Contingent upon meeting all requirements of law and district policy:

Name	Classification	Employee Replaced/Reason	Effective Date	Salary	Benefits
Christina Blanco*	Spanish Teacher(prorated as needed)	Kristin Vath, child rearing leave	5/14/08 to 6/17/08	Bachelors +12, Step 0 (prorated)	No
George Arslanian	Day Custodian – UES	Albert Granato, retirement	6/9/08	\$13.95 per hour, step 0	Yes

*Note: This was originally approved as a 20% time position, but employee is needed for 3 1/2 hours per day.

Policy and Program

Upon a motion made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mr. Fieber, the Board voted to approve the following:

- Adopt revised Policy #623 Returned Checks.
- Confirm the awarding of diplomas at Graduation Exercises to be held on June 17, 2008 to the students listed on the attachment who have met the district's graduation requirements as of June 17, 2008.

Plant & Equipment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Heath, seconded by Mrs. Elefante, the Board voted to approve the following:

- A lease agreement with The Clubhouse-For Kids Only, Inc. for use of school facilities for the term of July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2013.

Liaisons

Dr. Boccuti reported on the BCIU's legislative meeting.

Mr. Fieber and Mrs. Wahlgren reported on activities at Middle Bucks Institute of Technology.

Mr. Fieber reported that the Education Fund would be giving out ten grants. He thanked Mr. Scandone who was in the audience.

Public Discussion

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| Bev Reilly | - Invited Board and guests to middle school field day. |
| Student | - Presented a petition asking the Board not to cut electives. |
| Elizabeth Rowland,
Student | - Requested not to eliminate academic courses |
| Joy Brown, Student | - Statement that she prefers small class sizes. |
| Gabriele, Student | - Statement that she has better experiences with smaller class size.
Statement that every student should be able to take the classes they want. |
| Chuck Abold, Grad. | - Statement that foreign language classes were important and
statement about combining French classes. |
| Joe Liberatore | - Question on whether high school teachers would be teaching at the
middle school. Question on eliminating teacher duty periods. |
| Laura Magaziner | - Concern about combining two courses into one class period.
Question about how we could add more courses without increasing
teachers. |
| Student | - Statement that she had been in private school and prefers New Hope-
Solebury due to small class sizes. Question on who would do jobs
teachers are doing on duty periods. |

- Student - Statement that his honors English class had almost thirty students and they do not get the chance to interact as much.
- Claire, Student - Question on whether they were going to combine French I and French V. Question on whether printers were being cut back. Question on elementary guidance counselors. Question on number of guidance counselor additional days.
- Rich Healy - Statement about balancing teacher workload and student needs.
- Jimmy McGee - Question on whether a class under fifteen would be cut. Question on status of AP courses.
- Elizabeth Livesey - Statement that school is like a community and that small class sizes are better.
- Parent - Question on why there are a large number of study halls and that the type of electives should be looked at.
- Student - Statement that Board should keep people informed.
- Debbie Hisch, Parent - Statement that class size is important and that students have presented a good case.
- Marty Kelly - Statement about moving teachers to the middle school.
- Frank Cosner - Statement that the Board does not want to hurt anyone. Statement that the Board has the students' best interests at heart. Statement that people should come to board meetings.
- Mark Clark - Statement that it is difficult to balance the budget and the needs of students. Statement that electives make kids well rounded.
- Jimmy McGee - Question on status of IEP classes.
- Mallory Core - Question on what happened to start the scheduling discussion.
- Parent - Question on combining classes.
- Bill Riley - Statement that the Board let people speak and listened to everyone.
- Patrice Ockenhouse - Concern about perception that teachers are not doing their full duties. Concern that the duty periods are being trivialized. Statement about numbers of students in study halls.
- Larry Panzica - School should allow parents to record IEP meetings.

Upon a motion made by Mrs. Elefante, seconded by Mrs. Malamis, the Board voted to refer the topic of recording IEP meetings to the Policy Committee.

Marilyn Koblan - Question on hand out for board meeting. Complimented students on their participation.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Mr. Nally, seconded by Mr. Heath, the Board of School Directors voted to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Gregory Hogg, Director of Business & Finance
Board Secretary